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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/574,538

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Kap Soo Shin

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EXAMINER

STINSON, FRANKIE L

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1792

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

03/05/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/574,538	Applicant(s) SHIN, KAP SOO	
	Examiner /FRANKIE L. STINSON/	Art Unit 1792	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>4/3/2006</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

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1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-13 and 16-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over EPO'940 (European Patent Office 0 793 943) in view of Osvatic et al. (U. S. Pat. No. 7,367,134), Schaaf et al. (U. S. Pat. No. 6,349,731) or Japan'933 (Japan 10-306933) and Japan'981 (Japan 11-346981)

Re claims 1, 5, 7, 12 and 18, EPO.940 is cited disclosing a dishwasher comprising;

a tub (8);

a door (10) pivotally mounted on a front portion of the tub, the door comprising a door cover (14) and a door liner (16) mounted on a rear surface of the door cover;

a blower cover (27) assembly comprising contacting the door liner,

guide ribs (see fig. 1) and

a rack (not shown, however typical) formed in the tub to receive dishes that differs from the claims only in the recitation of the blower cover assembly comprising a circular attaching cap inserted into the door liner, a cylindrical cap body extending from one side of the attaching cap and a guide sleeve extending from another side of the attaching cap and provided with a drain hole, with the guide rib formed on an inner circumference of the guide sleeve and inclined in a direction. Osvatic (see fig. 4), Schaaf (see 48, fig. 2) and Japan'933 (see fig. 6) are each cited disclosing in a ventilation arrangement, the a circular attaching cap, a cylindrical cap body extending from one side of the attaching

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cap and a guide sleeve extending from another side of the attaching cap as claimed. It therefore would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art, with predictable results, to modify the blower cover assembly of EPO'940, to include a circular attaching cap, cylindrical cap body and a guide sleeve as taught by Osvatic, Schaaf or Japan'933 with no change in their respective function, since this is considered to be a mere substitution of equivalents since it is old and well known to substitute one, functionally similar component, for other equally functioning components, where the respective components have some structural differences (see MPEP 2144.06 SUBSTITUTING EQUIVALENTS KNOWN FOR THE SAME PURPOSE). All of the claimed elements were known in the prior art and one skilled in the art could have combined the elements as claimed by known methods with no change in their respective functions, and the combination would have yielded predictable results to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention. In regard to the drain hole, Japan'981 (see fig. 5) discloses a cover comprising a drain hole as claimed. It therefore would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art, with predictable results, to modify the blower cover assembly of EPO'940, to include a drain hole as taught by Japan'981 with no change in their respective function, for the purpose of removing extraneous water. It is old and well known to keep liquids in a contained environment, to prevent injury or damage. All of the claimed elements were known in the prior art and one skilled in the art could have combined the elements as claimed by known methods with no change in their respective functions, and the combination would have yielded predictable results to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention. Also

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note the inclined in a direction of the ribs in Japan'933. Re claims 2 and 11, Japan'933 discloses the v-shape. Re claims 3, 8 and 10, Schaaf and Japan'933 each disclose the center rib. Re claims 4 and 9, Schaaf discloses the higher end as claimed. Re claim 6, Schaaf (as at 52) and Osvatic (as at 41) each disclose the locking ring. Re claim 12, EPO'940 discloses the thickness as claimed. Re claim 16, Japan'933, Osvatic, and Schaaf each disclose the less diameter as claimed. Re claim 17, Schaaf discloses the inclined ribs.

3. Claims 14 and 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the applied prior art as applied to claim 7 above, and further in view of Japan'507..

Claim 14 defines over the applied prior art only in the recitation of the identical diameters. Japan'507 is cited disclosing the diameter as claimed (se fig. 2). It therefore would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art, with predictable results, to modify the blower cover assembly of EPO'904, to include a the identical diameters as taught by Japan'507, with no change in their respective function, since this is considered to be a mere change in size (see MPEP 2144.04, IV CHANGES IN SIZE, SHAPE, OR SEQUENCE OF ADDING INGREDIENTS). All of the claimed elements were known in the prior art and one skilled in the art could have combined the elements as claimed by known methods with no change in their respective functions, and the combination would have yielded predictable results to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention. Re claim 15, Schaaf (as at 52) and Osvatic (as at 41) each disclose the locking ring.

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4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. In Johnsson et al., Herbst et al., Quayle, Yake, Anselmino et al., Kang, Japan'415, Japan'469, Japan'193, Japan'001, Switzerland'891, EPO'773 and EPO'532, note the cover means.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to FRANKIE L. STINSON whose telephone number is (571) 272-1308. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 5:30 am to 2:00 pm and some Saturdays from approximately 5:30 am to 11:30 am.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Barr, can be reached on (571) 272-1700. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/FRANKIE L. STINSON/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1792